

Recall – Emmett Charter Township Supervisor  
(Refer to Michigan Election Law, 168.951 – 976)

**Language filed 01/03/2023 to recall:**

Emmett Township Supervisor Deb Belles (Republican)  
Serving a 4-year term November 2020 to November 2024  
Address: 247 Keathley Dr, Battle Creek, MI 49014 Phone: 269-924-2421  
Email: [dkbelles@gmail.com](mailto:dkbelles@gmail.com)

**Sponsor:**

Emmett Township Registered Voter: Jim Mead, 116 Pine Knoll Dr 3A, Battle Creek, MI 49014  
Phone: 269-274-1606  
Email: [jim.mead1@gmail.com](mailto:jim.mead1@gmail.com)

**Recall Wording:**

The language was submitted to the County Clerk’s Office on Tuesday, January 5, 2023. The Supervisor was notified within 3 business days via phone and email: January 6, 2023

Charter Township of Emmett Supervisor Deb Belles is unfit for office and should be recalled from the elected office of Township Supervisor for the following reason. 1. Supervisor Belles hired a convicted felon as code enforcement officer of the Township. 2. Supervisor Belles violated Article 2, Section 2.01 of the Zoning Ordinances of Emmett Township when she hired a Zoning Administrator without Township Board approval. 3. Ms. Belles uses bullying, Intimidation, and verbal abuse as a management style. 4. Ms. Belles was given 25 Chick-fil-A “Local Hero Gift Cards” (valued at \$11,154), that were intended for Public Safety Officers and gave the cards to “whoever she seen fit.” Only 8 of the 25 cards were given to the intended public safety officers, Ms. Belles refuses to account for the other 17 cards.

**Number of Signatures Required:** The petitions shall be signed by registered and qualified electors equal to no less than 25% of the number of votes cast for all candidates for the office of governor at the last preceding general election in the district the council member is sought to be recalled. This is a calculated number based on the total Emmett Township 4 Voting Precincts voters in the November 8, 2022 Election.

Recall of <i>Emmett Township Supervisor Deb Belles</i>						
Based on votes cast during 11/08/2022 Gubernatorial Election						
Recall Signatures Needed						
DISTRICT	# of Registered Voters	Nov 8, 2022 Poll Book	All Votes for Governor	x 25%	# of Signatures Required	Rounded Up
Emmett Charter Township Pct. #1	2225	722	709	25%	177.25	178
Emmett Charter Township Pct. #2	2368	1369	1357	25%	339.25	340
Emmett Charter Township Pct. #3	2419	1042	1034	25%	258.5	259
Emmett Charter Township Pct. #4	2816	1742	1736	25%	434	434
<b>Total:</b>	<b>9828</b>	<b>4875</b>	<b>4836</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>1209</b>	<b>1,211</b>

**The Clarity/Factual Review Hearing** is scheduled for January 18, 2023 (13 days after filing), at 12:30pm at the Calhoun County Building, 315 W Green St, Marshall, MI 49068, Boardroom 3-C08 (The Board of Commissioners Chambers on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor).

- The sponsor Jim Mead and the Township Supervisor Deb Belles will have an opportunity to speak to the Election Commission to express their concerns as to the petition language being clear and factual.

- The County Election Commission will discuss and vote to approve or disapprove the recall petition as clear and factual in nature, to determine if the petition meets statutory criteria.

**The Determination of Election Commission** A motion was made by Treasurer Wensauer, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Clerk Hinkley to vote on the clarity & factual nature of the language. A roll call vote was taken by Election Specialist Jill Stout: A vote of the clarity & factual nature of the petition language submitted for the recall of Emmett Charter Township Supervisor Deb Belles: Clerk Hinkley: Reject, Treasurer Wensauer: Reject, Judge Jaconette: Reject. By a vote of 3 to reject, & -0- to approve the Election Commission rejected the language of the petition filed 01/05/2023.

- No further action was taken by either party.